



2021

CONSERVATION AUTO TOUR

SITE 2: RICE LAKE WPA

WETLAND RESTORATION

The Rice Lake Waterfowl Production Area was acquired by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in the early 2000's as a North American Conservation Act Project. The wetlands were identified early on but construction was put on hold due to funding shortfalls.

Le Sueur County in partnership with the SWCD received a 2013 LCCMR Grant (Environmental Natural Resource Trust Fund or commonly known as lottery dollars) in the amount of \$400,000 to work on 13 priority sites in the Le Sueur, Blue Earth and Waseca County areas.

Total Cost of the project:

Grant:	\$48,000
Local Sportsmen Club Match:	\$14,500
<u>Le Sueur County Aggregate Funds:</u>	<u>\$10,388</u>
Total:	\$72,888

Rice Lake WPA Wetland Restoration will serve as an area that will store and treat water prior to entering Rice Lake. The restored 16 acre drained wetland had been previously ditched and was not providing the clean water and wildlife benefits it was capable of. The restoration was calculated to reduced pollution reduction loads by 59.40 T/yr. TSS, 59.40 T/yr. Soil and 89.10 lbs./yr. Phosphorus annually.

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Below are a series of photos that demonstrate the changes on the properties converting it towards a more wildlife and clean water site:



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Construction Photos:



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